

The mailships picture page



■ Above: two crewmen of SA Vaal were in the news early this year when the mailship once again succeeded in rescuing a passenger who went overboard. At sea on February 14 Douglas Carre, AB, at right in this picture, saw the lady passenger go overboard. He immediately informed the bridge, a lifeboat was sent away with chief officer Flint in charge, and the passenger was found. Douglas Jago, AB, at left in the picture, jumped into the sea to assist the passenger, who was unconscious. The area where the incident took place is known to be shark infested, records Comm. D. W. Soudan, commending "a brave act". The passenger was landed fit in Cape Town after treatment in the ship's hospital. The whole incident from Carre's "man overboard" to full ahead with lifeboat re-secured took only 51 minutes. Carre, aged 48, joined Union-Castle in 1946; Jago, aged 51, joined in 1952. Picture: M. Bartlett, Transocean Photographic.

■ Below: His Excellency A. B. S. Burger, South African Ambassador in Paris, with his wife, on board SA Vaal bound for South Africa and home leave after three and a half years in Paris. They hope to meet up with their son in Pretoria; he is also in the foreign service, currently based in Brussels. The Burgers are the first father and son to serve in the South African Diplomatic Service at the same time. Picture H. J. Wood.



■ While SA Vaal was in South African waters in late February a film crew worked on board, preparing a new advertising film. Shots were taken from a helicopter hovering close around the vessel as she left Cape Town. Centre right: the camera-carrying helicopter seen from the mailship's deck.



■ Lower right: a sports car makes an unusual sight on the mailship's funnel deck during filming. J. Barnes, third electrician who assisted the camera team, takes a look through their camera while they discuss the next shot. Both pictures: M. Bartlett, Transocean Photographic.

